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Sabrina Online
YEAR 5
Adventures In Dating
That's right, another comic strip collection by Eric W. Schwartz

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Sabrina Online by *Eric W. Schwartz* ©2001

"Works out to a little over forty strips a year."

Check out Sabrina Online at http://www.sabrina-online.com

Sabrina Online

Adventures In Dating

The fifth collected edition of the world's most skunk-centric internet comic strip
"Sabrina Online" created, written, and drawn by Eric W. Schwartz. Book layout by Eric Schwartz
"Thomas Woolfe" created by Michael Higgs. "Zig Zag", created by Max the Black Rabbit
Edited and published by United Publications.
View the comic strip in its natural environment at http://www.sabrina-online.com

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The bridge to the other side of the book.

Introduction

I can't believe you keep coming back!

I wish I knew what has kept this comic strip running for over five years now. It must be sheer bull-headed stubbornness, because I can't say the ideas have come in a constant stream. Since this IS the fifth yearly collection of Sabrina Online, a special collection of Sabrina at See-CAD, my college comic strip, has been included. You need only flip over this book to find them. I've even added background information on the old strips for you folks that have seen some of them before. If that won't bring you back for another year, then I'm out of ideas.

Eric W. Schwartz

If you are just joining us:

Our story began with Sabrina, Amiga computer user and Transformer toy collector, signing up for internet access. After wrestling with hardware and software settings, and learning how scary some chat rooms can be for an innocent lady, she made some friends, such as Carli the chinchilla and her huge husband Spike, not to mention picking up a secret admirer.

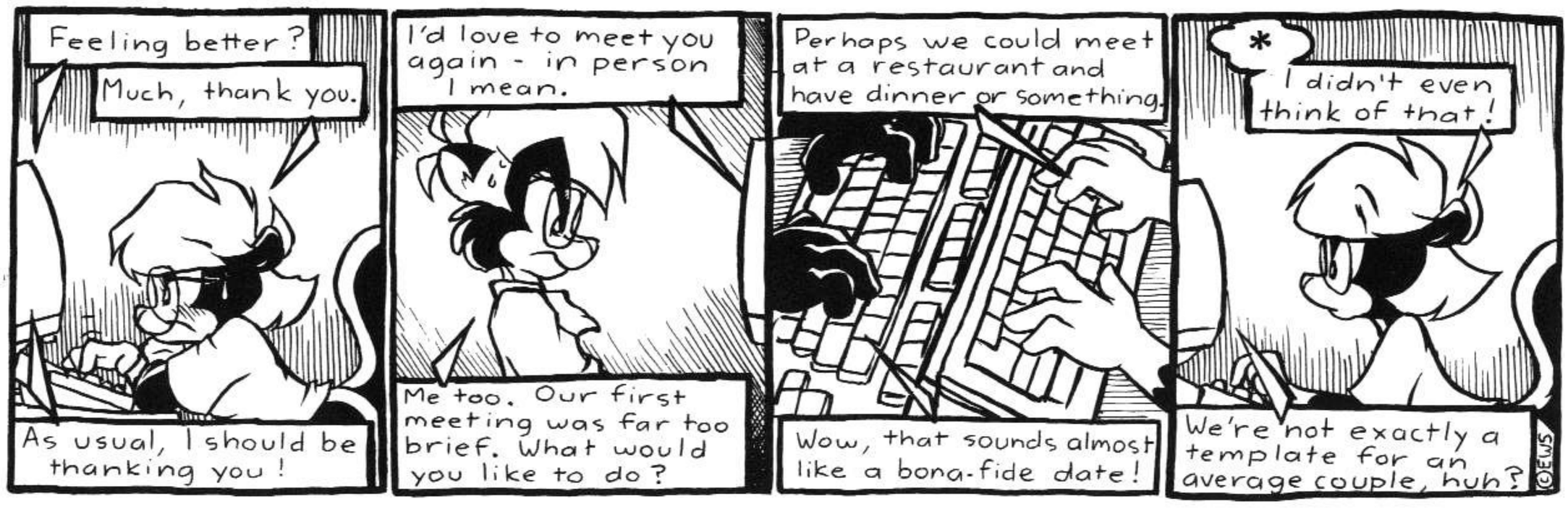
Meanwhile, Amy the Squirrel was getting along very well with her boyfriend, Thomas Woolfe, so well in fact that she soon found out she was pregnant. Though the discovery caused some awkwardness between Amy and Thomas, he soon proposed and moved in with Amy, to mixed feelings on roommate Sabrina's part.

After graduating college, Sabrina tried with varying success to find steady employment. She finally found work at, of all things, an adult film studio. This uncomfortable environment was run by Zig Zag, a shameless tiger-striped skunk. Zig Zag showed great interest in Sabrina, and came on to her several times. Things went a bit too far on a trip, forcing the two to come to an understanding.

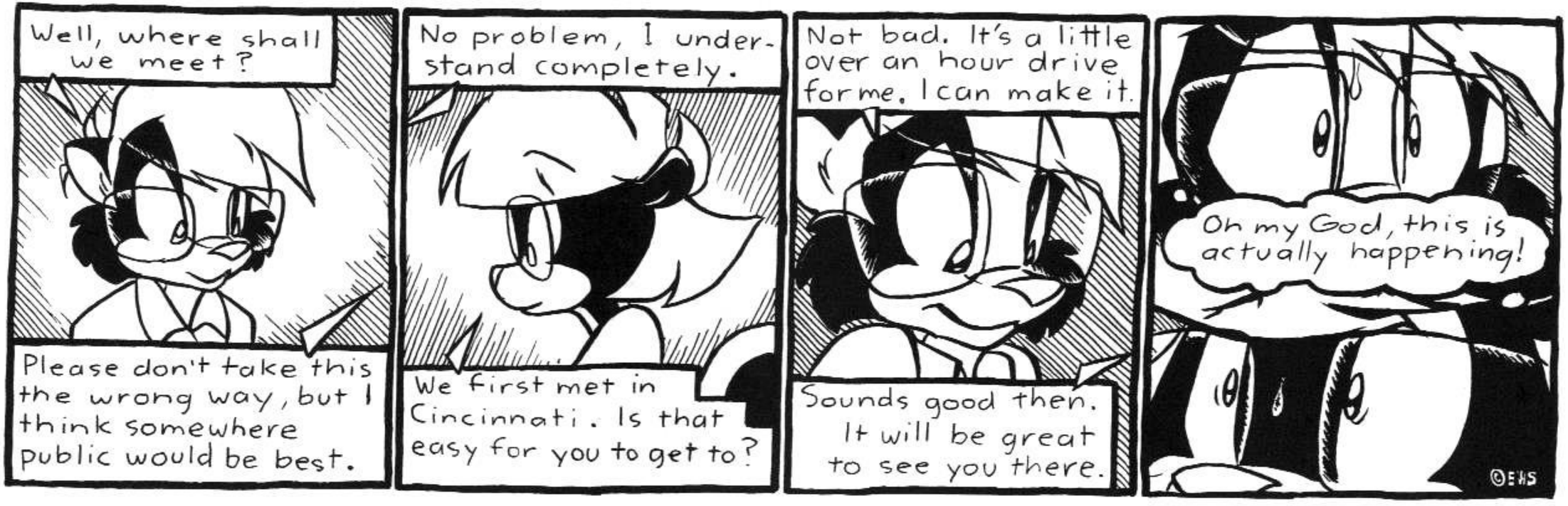
With Carli's help, Sabrina and her admirer, a raccoon called R.C. finally met after a long time of only talking online. Their meeting was short however, as Amy went into labor, and they had to leave. Timothy Wolfe-Squirrel was born, and Amy and Thomas were married soon after, Leaving Sabrina feeling somewhat out of place sharing an apartment with the new family.

Now on with the show!

"Prelude to a date"

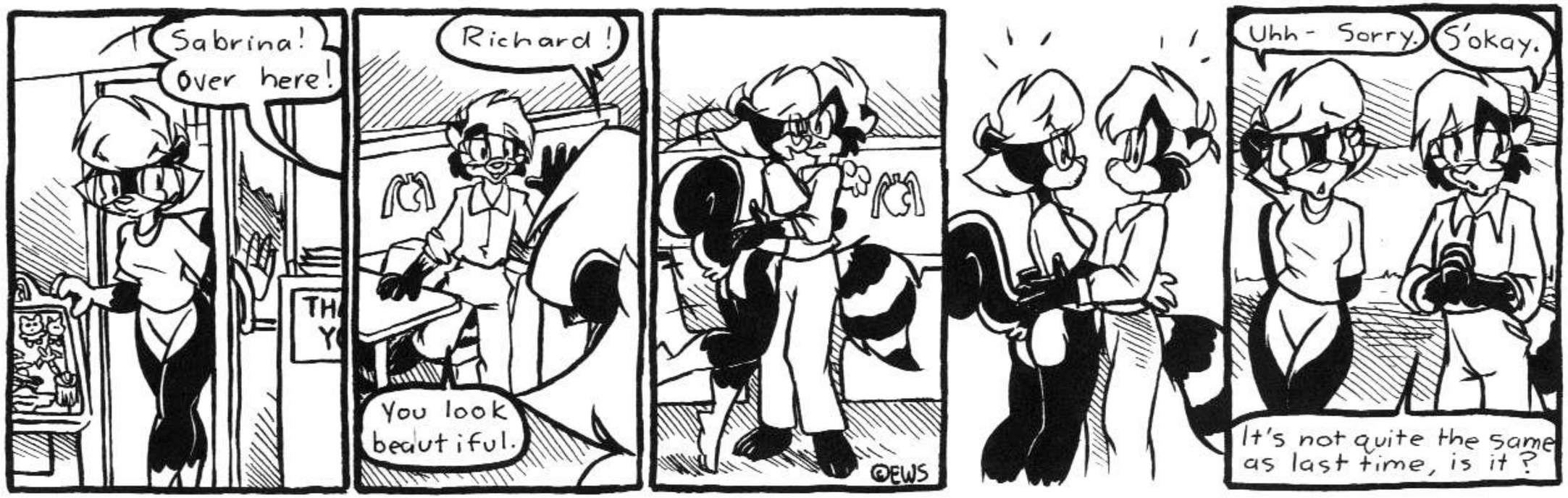


"Prelude to anxiety"



"Prelude to bad satire"

"Prelude to the next installment"



"Post-order"

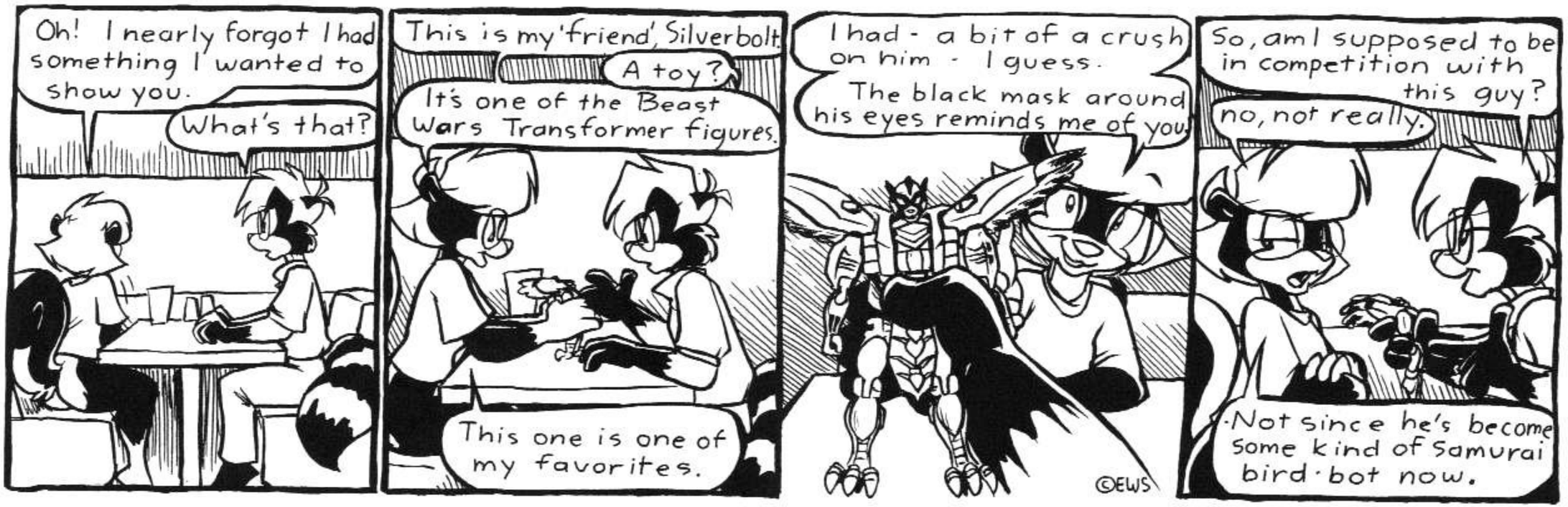
"Ointment, meet fly"

"Windows not me"

"Signs of a couple"

"The Cincinnati peace accord"

"Xmas 99 explained"



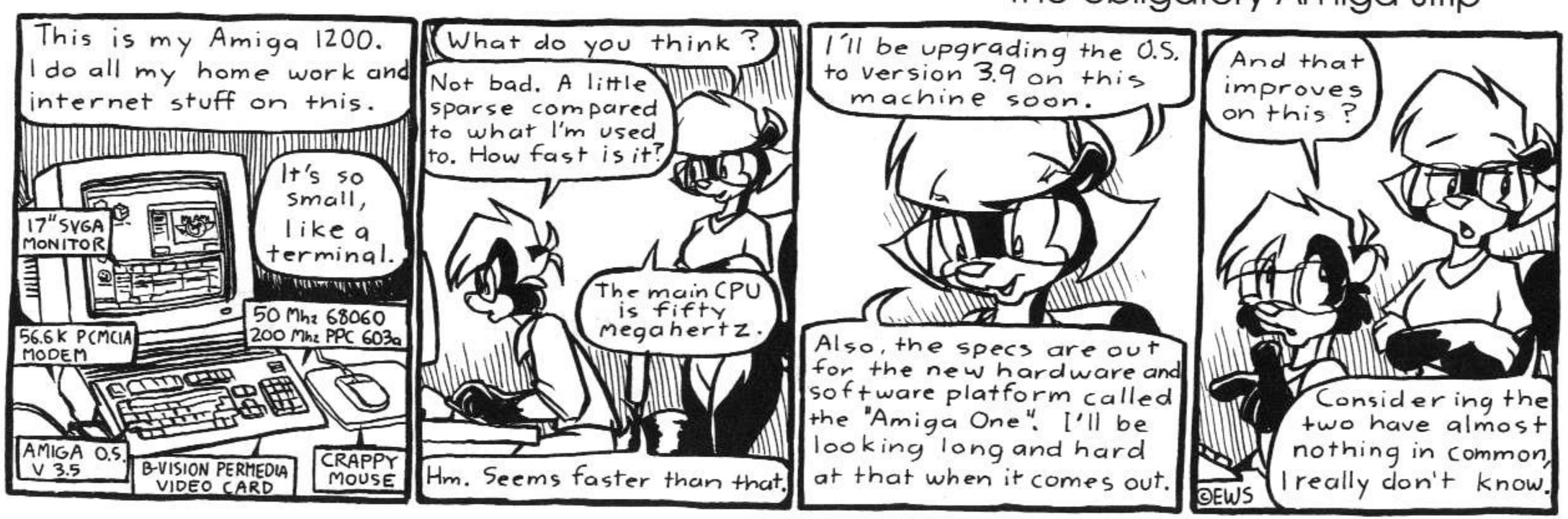
"No interruptions this time"

"No, not THAT Springfield"

"International stalkers"

"The freak flag flies"

"The obligatory Amiga strip"



"The trivial tribute to Tatsuya"

Christmas Strip 2000: "I believe in Santa Claus - and Columbus"

"Klassics of komedy"

"Disregard all other accounts"

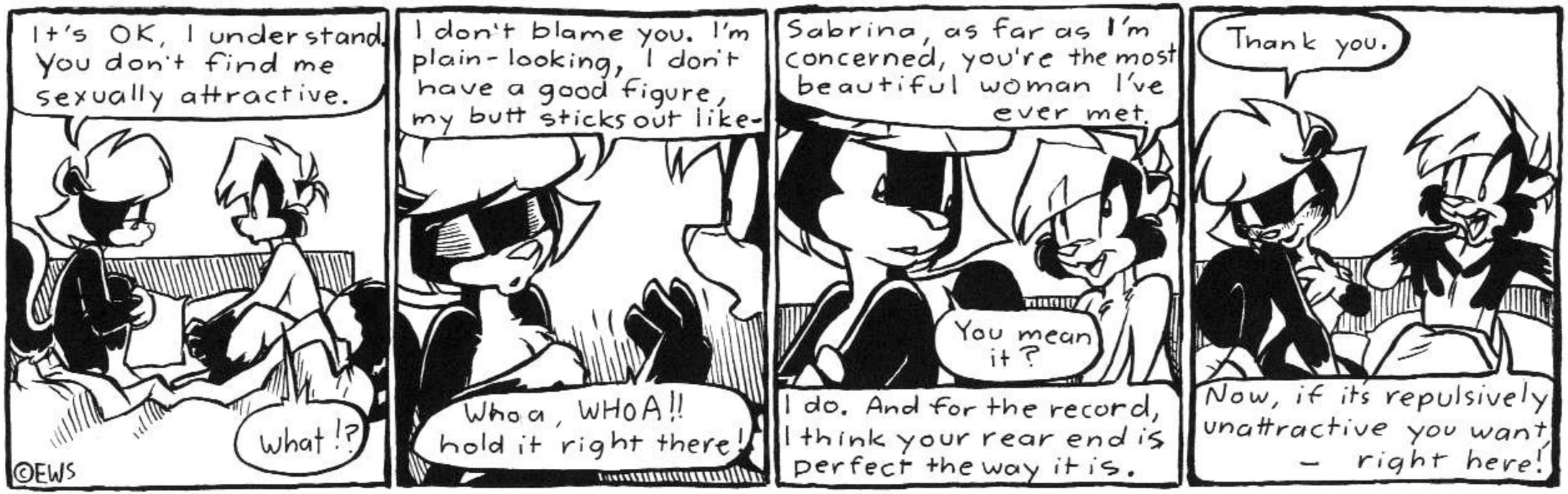
"Inseduction"

"Darn near talked out of it"

"Responsible cartooning"

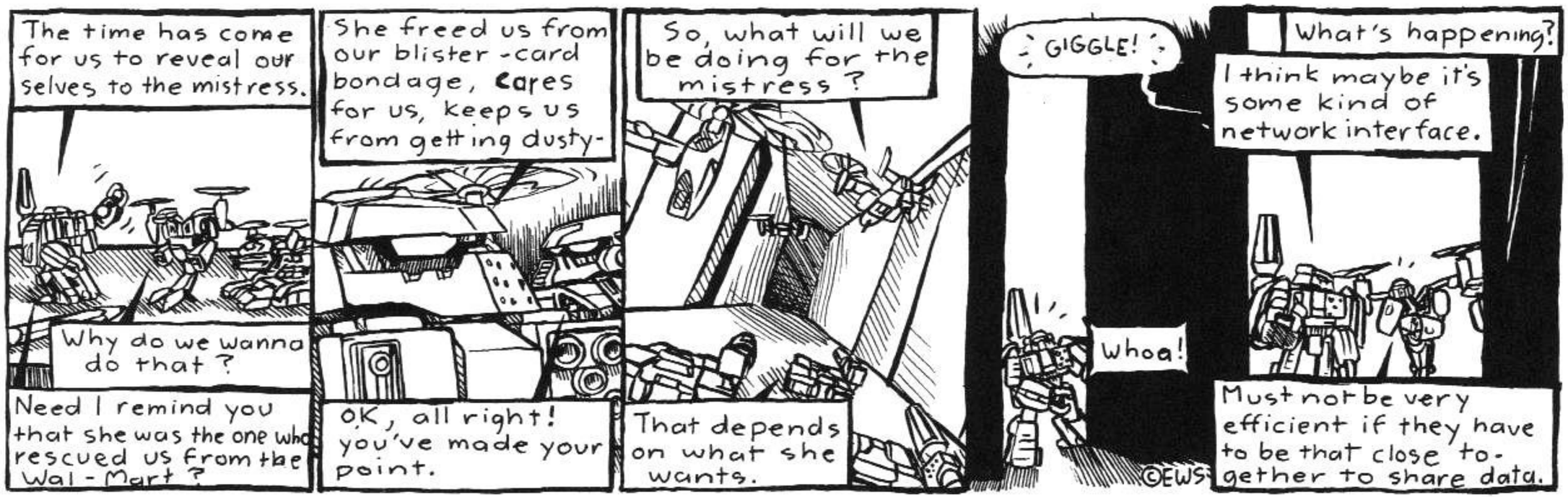
"How about a road map and a GPS?"

"Esteem of the self"

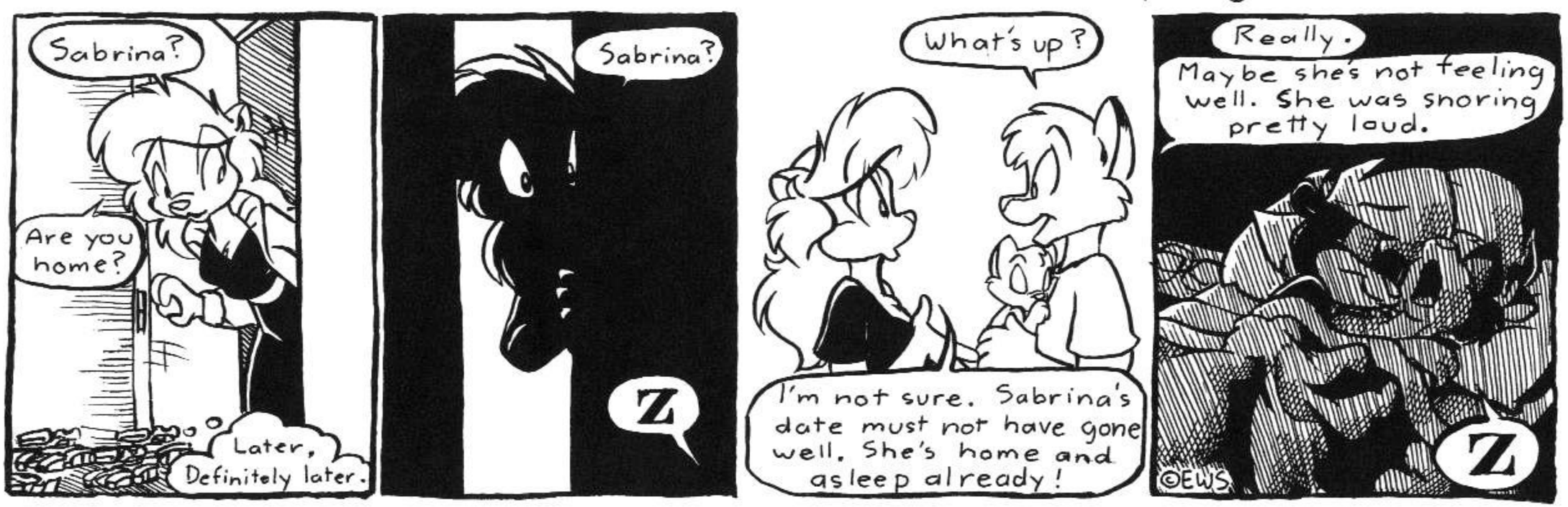


"Greetings from the wild jungle skunks"

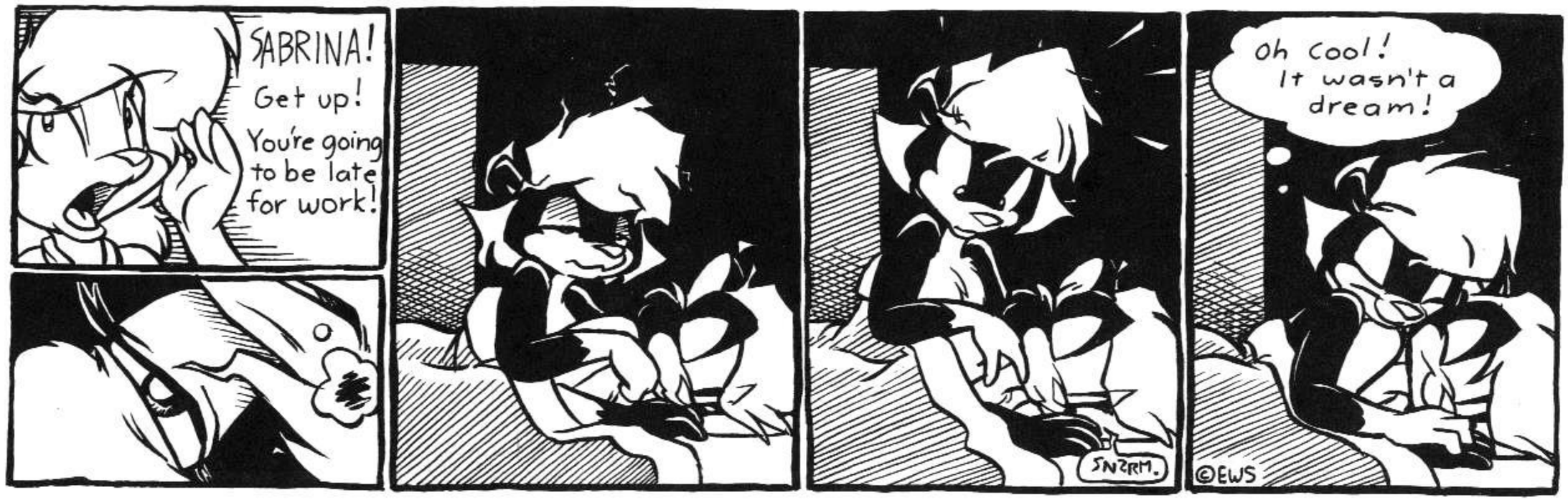
"Legion"



"Apologies needed?"



"Better than waking up next to Zig Zag"



"Guess who's coming to breakfast"

"Confidence builder"

"Somehow the porn stars are always the first to know"

"Mindgames"

"Flattery will get you employees"

"Conversational sycophantism"

"AIM for your goals"

"When was Zig Zag a scout"

"Where's Steve Irwin when you need him"

"Survival talk"

"Twice the standard plot devices for your money"

"The character shuffle"

"Where's my five bucks?"

Max © Black Rabbit

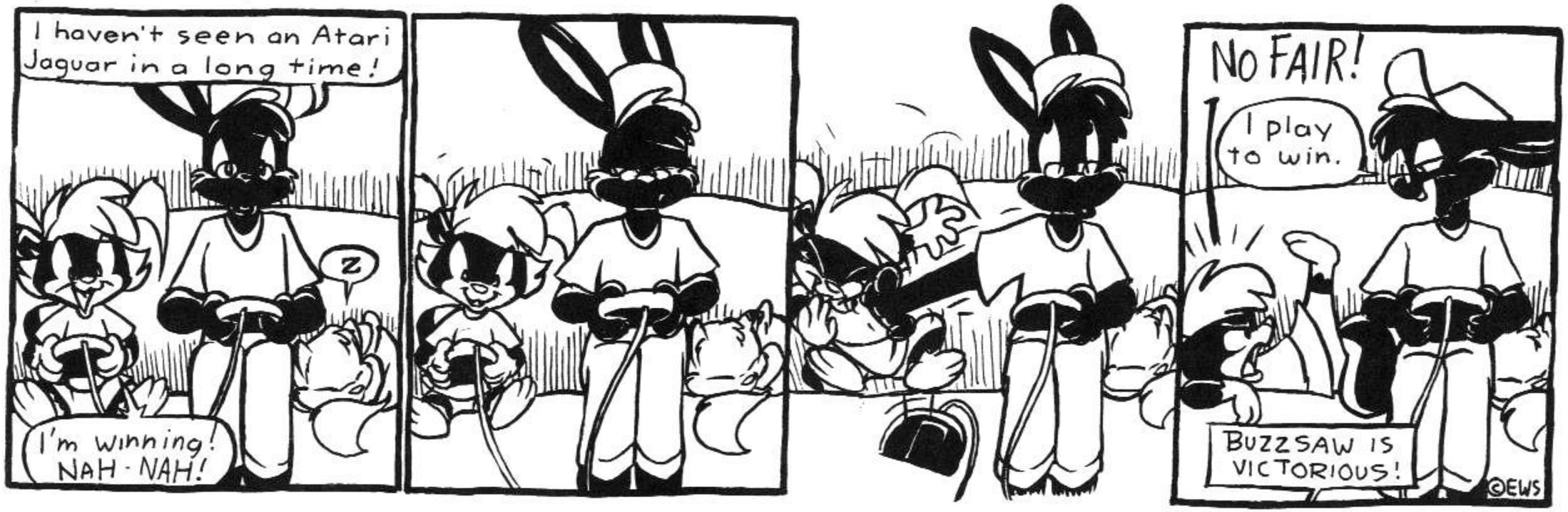
"Name that dress"

"Two tortures for the price of one"

"Promise or threat?"

"Too many babysitters spoil the strip"

"Rabbit rip-off"



"No silicone was used in the making of this strip"

"Disgruntled"

"Out of the mouths of babes"

"Works out to a little over forty strips a year"

"Not too bad an offer"

"Intuition"

"Masher"

"The punchline is street crime?"

"Skunk biology lesson"

"Little miss tactful"

"Fear showed up late today"

The Artist Arena

Thanks to all the superb artists that contributed or offered their work and assistance. Sabrina thanks you all.

Eric W. Schwartz

Eric is a cartoonist, animator, author of Sabrina Online, and maybe some other stuff too. He also sells prints and other merchandise.
E.S. Productions, P.O. Box 292684, Kettering OH 45429-2551
Email: erics@coax.net * Web: http://www.sabrina-online.com

Ken Singshow

Anyone who thinks the Japanese are only capable of the anime look should check out Ken's work. His Andorozon stories can be found in Wild Frontier, Extinctioners, and other publications.
Email: skunk@fang.or.jp * Web: http://wolf.fang.or.jp/skunk/

Max Black Rabbit

A skilled artist, inker and the creator of Zig Zag. Also a big Sabrina fan and veteran contributor, so naturally I pestered him to not miss this book. You may have seen his work in Extinctioners, Genus, and other publications.
Email: max_br@hotmail.com
Web: http://www.madcoyote.com/bolthole/

gNAW, the Ninja Artist

This mysterious ninja is constantly striving to increase his artistic chi in anime and cartoon-style drawings. His work can be found in Furthest North Crew and other publications.
Email: ninjaatwork@yahoo.com
Web: http://vcl.ctrl-c.liu.se/vcl/Artists/gNAW/

The Brothers Grinn (Brian & Stuart Burke)

Tour guides to Supermegatopia and the World of Crushed, as well as creators of random humorous cheesecake.
Email: smt@comcast.net & dfenwic@hotmail.com
Web: http://www.supermegatopia.com

TABITHA & SABRINA © EWS ZIG ZAG © MAX BLACKRABBIT

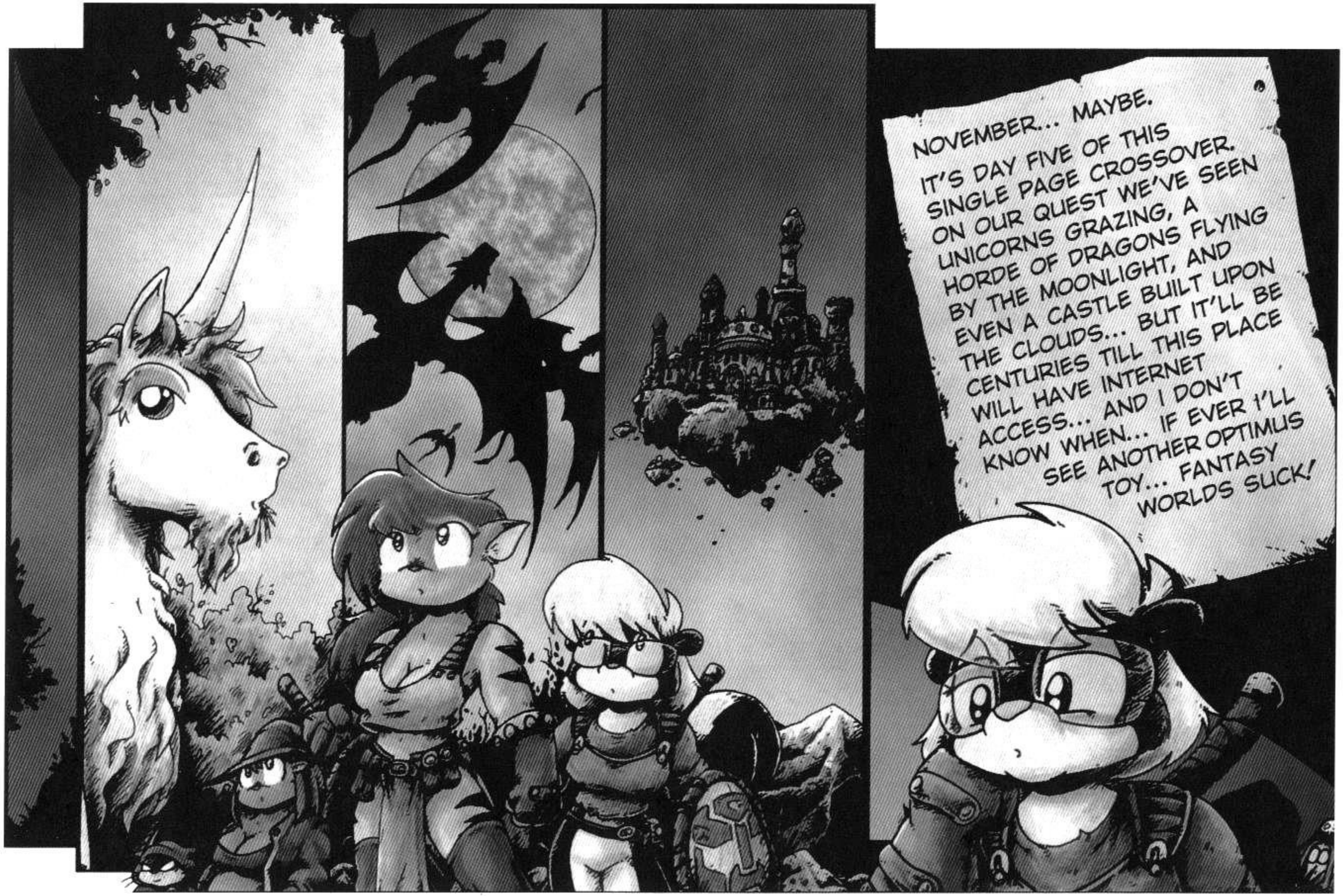
Bad Day, Sour Reality

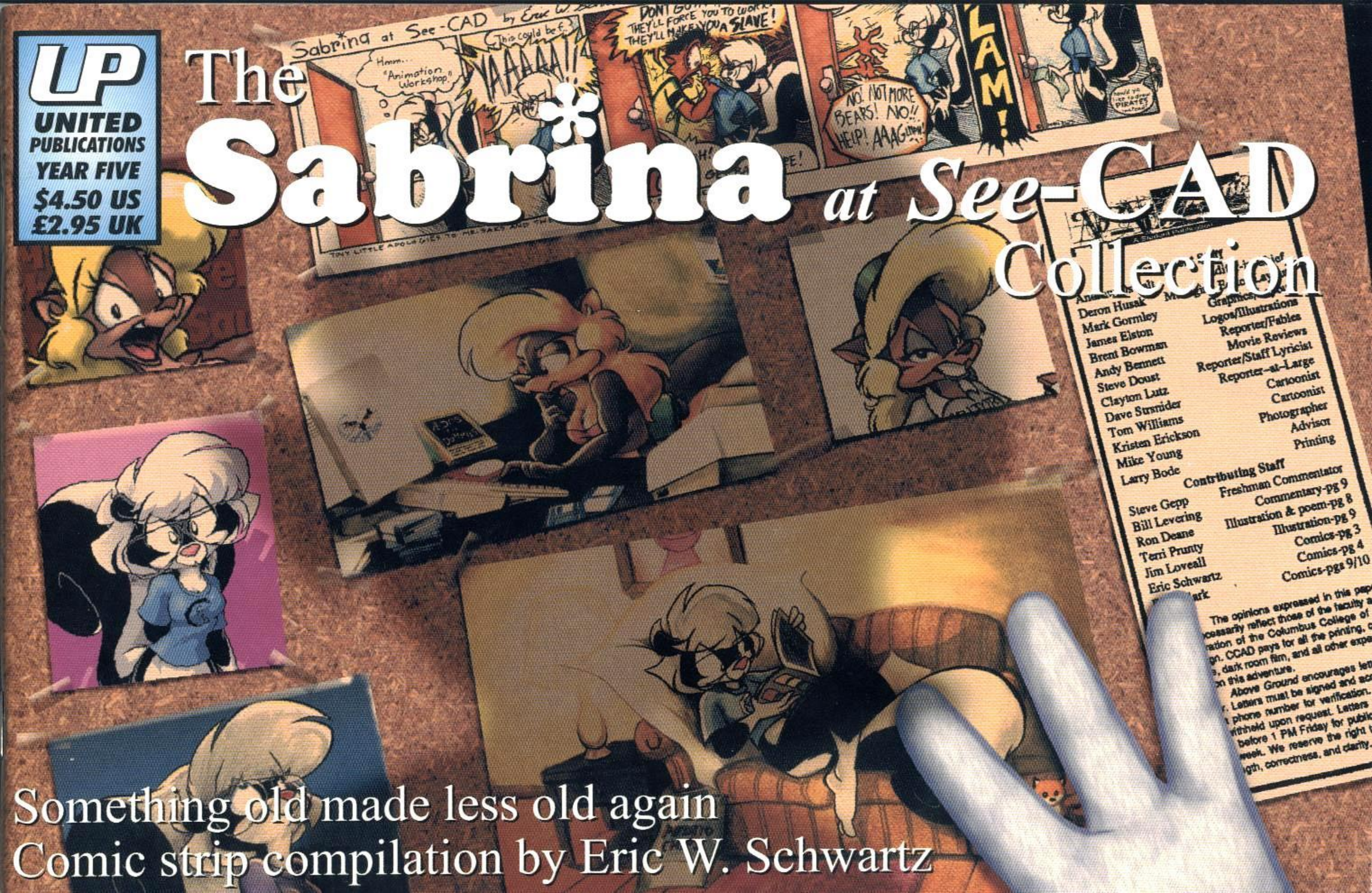
Sabrina Online

Good Night, Sweet Dreams

Sabrina, Tabitha & R.C. © Eric Schwartz Zig Zag © Blackrabbit Optimus Prime © Hasbro

SABRINA, SHEILA, DARKE KATT, TABITHA © EWS
ZIG ZAG © MAX BLACKRABBIT
GNAWNINJA, PHOEBE © GNAW
WHAT?


NOVEMBER... MAYBE.
IT'S DAY FIVE OF THIS SINGLE PAGE CROSSOVER. ON OUR QUEST WE'VE SEEN UNICORNS GRAZING, A HORDE OF DRAGONS FLYING BY THE MOONLIGHT, AND EVEN A CASTLE BUILT UPON THE CLOUDS... BUT IT'LL BE CENTURIES TILL THIS PLACE WILL HAVE INTERNET ACCESS... AND I DON'T KNOW WHEN... IF EVER I'LL SEE ANOTHER OPTIMUS TOY... FANTASY WORLDS SUCK!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The Sabrina at See-CAD Collection
Sabrina at See-CAD by Eric W.
Hmm... "Animation Workshop"
This could be f.
YAAAAA!
DON'T GO!
THEY'LL FORCE YOU TO WORK!
THEY'LL MAKE YOU A SLAVE!
NO! NOT MORE BEARS! NO!! HELP! AAAG
LAM!
Would ya like to draw PIRATES instead?
Deron Husak
Mark Gormley
James Elston
Brent Bowman
Andy Bennett
Steve Doust
Clayton Lutz
Dave Sursnider
Tom Williams
Kristen Erickson
Mike Young
Larry Bode
Graphics/Illustrations
Logos/Illustrations
Reporter/Fables
Movie Reviews
Reporter/Staff Lyricist
Reporter-at-Large
Cartoonist
Cartoonist
Photographer
Advisor
Printing
Contributing Staff
Steve Gepp
Bill Levering
Ron Deane
Terri Prunty
Jim Loveall
Eric Schwartz
Freshman Commentator
Commentary-pg 9
Illustration & poem-pg 8
Illustration-pg 9
Comics-pg 3
Comics-pg 4
Comics-pgs 9/10
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ngth, correctness, and clarity.
Something old made less old again
Comic strip compilation by Eric W. Schwartz

Sabrina at See-CAD by Eric W. Schwartz ©1994

Sabrina at See-CAD by Eric W. Schwartz ©1994

TINY LITTLE APOLOGIES TO MR. SAKS AND THE REST OF THE TED D. BEAR CREW.

Sabrina at See-CAD - DVD-style edition.

As you may or may not have known, **"Sabrina at See-CAD"** started life as a comic strip for "Above Ground", the student newsletter for the Columbus College of Art & Design. Few strips were actually published this way, thanks to the overworked lives of the art students who produced the newsletter. The comic didn't die with the one senior semester that was its full published run however. Common for many students, I turned a personal project into a class project, and made more strips over the course of my senior year. Some of the strips were published in Med Systems' "American Journal of Anthropomorphics", as well as a self-published 'zine. Comics strips about art college life might be a little esoteric for some, so this collection includes comments and the occasional explanation from me. After Sabrina at See-CAD, I planned a second series to take up where it left off. Titled "The Life and Birth of Amy the Squirrel", it would have centered on the story of Amy getting pregnant and having a child. That series never came to fruition, in part because I didn't have an outlet for it, but stories, jokes, and concepts from that series lived on, in the form of the internet comic strip "Sabrina Online". There are quite a few things from this series that didn't carry over to the next, a continuity 'reboot' of sorts, much like when a new, a known comic book or television series jumps to another media, and a new audience. Please enjoy the comics, and try not to be too confused by anything that doesn't match up.

Eric W. Schwartz

SABRINA at See-CAD by Eric W. Schwartz ©1993

There are few things funnier than the truth. I learned a lot about finances my first year at college. I've never had to write a check remotely as large as my first tuition check, though I've come close a few times afterward - further tuition checks for an obvious example. It's was a pretty gut-wrenching experience at the time, to be sure.

As an art student, you put a lot of effort into almost every piece of homework you do. Couple this with no time to start over if something doesn't go according to plan, and you get a huge amount of frustration. There's been many a time when it seems I've done more work trying to correct errors and accidents than working on the project. Starting over would have saved time in retrospect.

As almost every college student knows, sleep is a rare commodity, and you never get enough, especially if you have a morning class. When you're on your own, you have no one to rely on to wake up except yourself. I had to make sure my alarm clock was not within reach from the bed, forcing me to actually get up to turn it off. I still had no guarantees that I would never oversleep, but at least I made the best effort I could. I had a further disadvantage in that I never developed a taste for coffee, long considered one of the four food groups for college students. I had to get my caffeine from soft drinks, but cola wasn't exactly a morning drink. My usual breakfast drink tended to be lemonade oddly enough, the citric acid doing its best to jump-start the morning in place of caffeine.

If fatigue is a soldier in the war against college students, procrastination must be the commander-in-chief. I couldn't possibly count the number of times where I find myself doing ANYTHING except the work that's due tomorrow, or even in an hour. We always hear stories about the people who don't procrastinate, the people who finish their work days or even weeks before it's due, the people who do their income tax forms in January. I've heard of those people but I've never actually met one. It's my theory they don't exist, and are actually a rumor made up to scare people.

Many of my comic strips are based on actual events, since truth is stranger than fiction. Several of my instructors in illustration and commercial art actually worked in the field. One went so far as to comment that he was training his future competition. I felt that made for a curious conflict of interests.

When I took the advanced animation workshop class, the whole class was roped into a project started by last semester's class - a public service announcement called "Child Abuse Is Un-bear-able" starring Ted D. Bear. To earn my 'A', I painted cels and wrote exposure sheets all semester. My crowning glory was animating eight frames of a broken bicycle wheel. Fortunately, I was able to take the class in its true form the following semester. I do regret not having the opportunity to screw over next semester's class like the last class did to us.

More truth in the guise of humor. When I took the 3-D illustration class, I assumed it to be a slightly more modern take on sculpture, which was both true and not. It actually seemed to cater a lot to the types who would get a job in the special effects industry for movies and television. Walking into the workshop, it wouldn't be surprising to see a monstrous creature or mangled corpse propped up against a wall, half grisly reality, half clay and foam rubber.

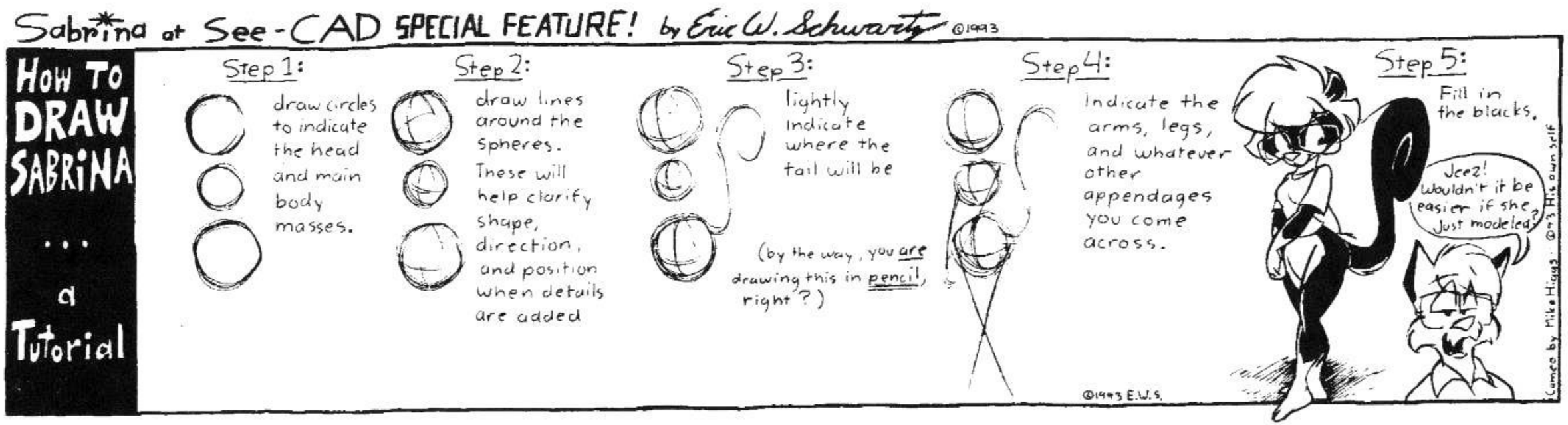
As CCAD was a 'real' college, it was necessary to take some classes that didn't require you to draw, and Art History was on of them. Truth be told, I probably did more casual doodling there than in many other classes combined, mostly in an effort to stay awake during the slide show in a darkened room. If they could bottle the essence of an art history class, a positive cure for insomnia would be forthcoming.

You may not believe it, but a few figure drawing classes can change how you look at the opposite sex. I've drawn several nude models in my day, some plain, some beautiful. Sometimes I moved to a different side of the room so I wouldn't have to draw some guy's package. I was surprised at how I switched to a clinical, analytical, 'artist' mode when drawing naked people. Instead of admiring the subtle rise and fall of a woman's breasts, I would be angry at her because the motion kept changing the way the shadows were falling on the leg I was trying to draw.

Another thing I learned at art school is to never wear any clothing you wish to keep presentable. For a while I thought I had beaten the system by wearing all dark clothes, but a few seconds with some white oil paint saw to that. The only safe clothing when working with oil paint is a plastic raincoat.

It's surprising how often it seems that several projects of all kinds are due at the same time, or at least on the same day. It's this kind of stress and frustration that either makes someone a stronger person, or makes them climb a nearby clock tower. I planned out a lot of my evenings in much the way Sabrina did, though actually following the plan was tough, when devoting a few extra minutes in one area would yield a finished project, and a few hours somewhere else would make no difference. Add in a project I forgot, or another which had its schedule changed, and most plans fly out the window, along with most intentions for extracurricular activities. I can't fault anyone who sacrificed a grade here or there for the sake of a healthy social life. I always thought the real trick of being a student was determining which classes or projects slacking off would do the least damage.

"Bloom County" was my favorite comic strip of all time, bar none. That must be why I shamelessly stole the giant contact lens joke. In fact, the ideas and format for both of these strips come from other sources, and I can only take credit for my own drawing work and a few minor variations. It's been said (not by me) that all comedians are thieves to an extent. Whether that's true or not, I know a good joke when I steal one, and I take solace in knowing that I wasn't the first, and won't be the last. I've even seen some of the same jokes on this page done later by greater cartoonists than me. Some even go so far as to credit the gags to me. It gives me a laugh, as I stole it from someone else, who may well have stolen it from someone who came before.



These two strips were the first published appearance of the infamous Tabitha - Sabrina's baby sister. The relationship between Sabrina and Tabitha has changed very little between "Sabrina at See-CAD" and "Sabrina Online". Sabrina still gets the job of babysitter more often than she'd like, and Tabitha is more than happy to do or say something to embarass her sister. In case it's not apparent from these comic strips, Tabitha's character, or at least her dialogue, was inspired in part by Mindy, a toddler under the constant protection of Buttons the dog in the 'Animaniacs' cartoon series. Sabrina was less likely to have heavy objects dropped on her while trying to keep her sister out of trouble, however.

Since CCAD shared a city with Ohio State University and a street with a community college, it wasn't difficult to feel you belonged to an unusual school, which was true, Since a large emphasis of this college was getting its students work in the art field, that was a strong concern for graduates as well. I'm still looking for a 'real' job. Doing comic strips doesn't cut it.

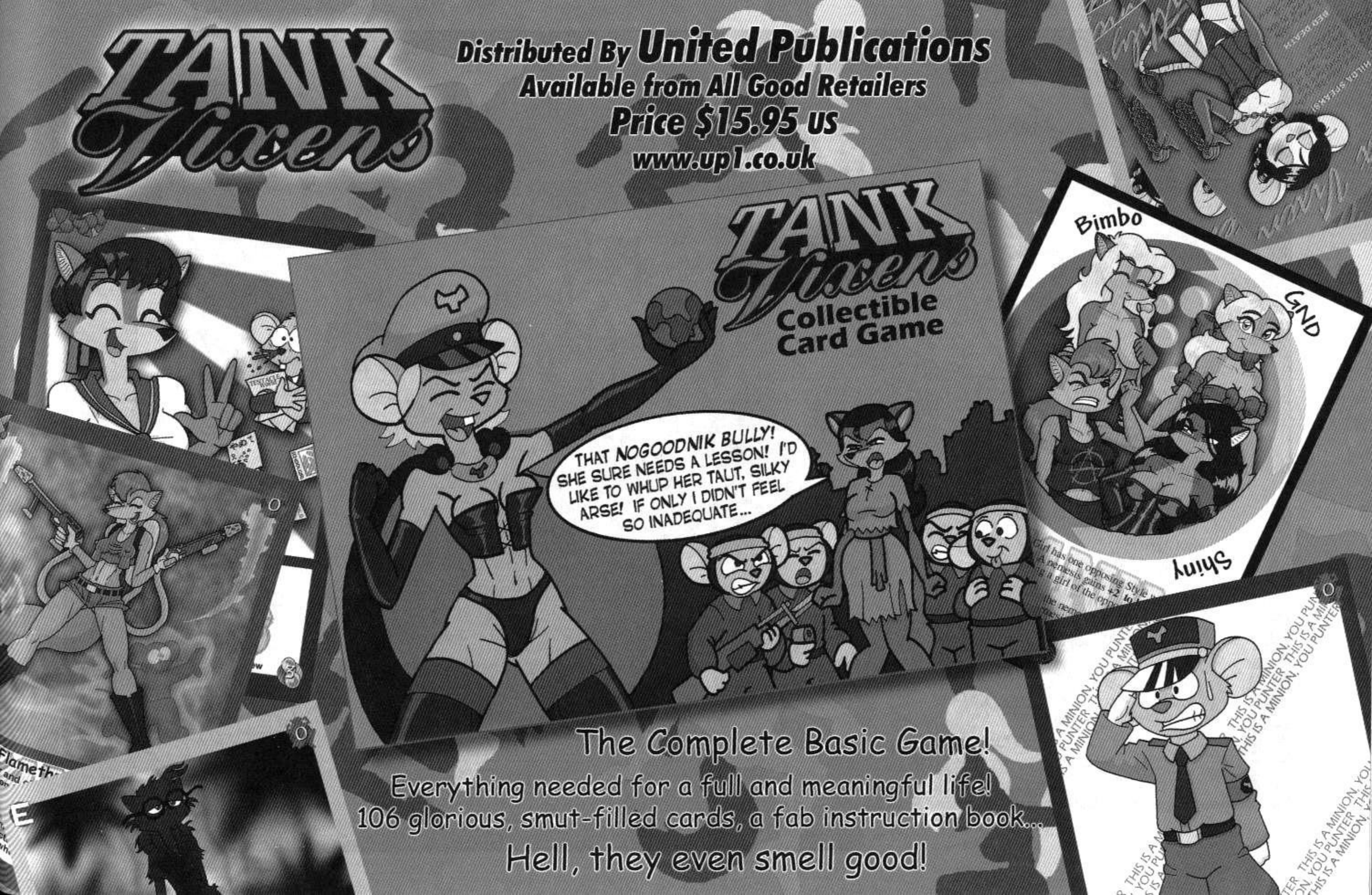
You may have noticed some of these comic strips aren't the greatest quality, and I'm not just talking about the art and writing. Unfortunately, many of the originals were lost, sold, or damaged before this volume was conceived, and like a 'special edition' movie, we tried to save or improve what we could, but there's only so much that can be done sometimes. My apologies for any stray pixels that might diminish your enjoyment of this book.

If you are an avid Sabrina Online reader, this may be the most controversial of the old comic strips I've ever done, In a Sunday-strip format no less. Michael Fox (by Michael Higgs, who also made Thomas Woolfe, appearing in Sabrina Online) played the part of Sabrina's boyfriend for several See-CAD strips, but when Sabrina Online started, Sabrina had no significant other (unless you count roommates) and was a virgin. That's the magic of the continuity reboot. When developing Sabrina Online, I decided one of the primary storylines would deal with Sabrina finding a match on the internet, so already having a boyfriend would muck things up a bit. Also, by the time I was getting ready to reveal the identity of Sabrina's online admirer, there were already a number of characters vying for her affection in fan-made comics and fiction. R.C. the racoon came about in part because I didn't want to play favorites, or have to answer to someone else if I depicted their character, and his relationship with Sabrina.

You might also have noticed that Sabrina seems to have a much larger tail in these strips than in Sabrina Online. Over time an artist's style changes or matures, and some elements change in ways that are more 'comfortable' to draw, or possibly Sabrina just changed the way she trimmed and brushed it. After all, if your life involved sitting in front of a computer for hours, would you want a gigantic tail always getting in the way of the chair?

Thank you for reading through this volume. I hope I've made it worth your while. If you haven't already done so, you might want to flip over the book and read the REAL comic strip. — Eric.

I don't believe I styled my tail all fluffed out back then. What was I thinking?!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